

Capsule Summary

Inventory No. FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Company
334-340 East Patrick St., Frederick
Frederick County, MD
1887 - 1950
Access: Private

The Union Manufacturing Company knitting mill, now vacant, is a series of brick structures constructed throughout the last half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. The building fronts East Patrick Street and lies on the bank of Carroll Creek. The various sections of brick construction represent the growth of the knitting mill over the years it was owned by the Union Manufacturing Company. The appearance of the structure has changed very little since the early 20th century. The building is one of the few industrial structures still intact in the historically industrial southeast section of Frederick City.

The Union Manufacturing Company represents the type of small industrial concerns that grew up in Frederick County in the decades after the Civil War. Following the war Frederick city grew rapidly from internal emigration and from the arrival of new immigrants from Europe. The expansion of the railroad and a growing middle class helped create a demand for consumer goods which in turn created a conducive environment for the creation of new factories. Hand in hand with the creation of new factories was the increase of women in the workforce, particularly in the garment industry. The Union Manufacturing Company was the first in Frederick County to actively recruit women to be workers in their hosiery factory. (National Register Criteria A)

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. FHD-1300

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Union Manufacturing Company (preferred), The Frederick Seamless Hosiery

other

2. Location

street and number 334-340 East Patrick Street not for publication

city, town Frederick vicinity

county Frederick

3. Owner of Property

(gives names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Lloyd L & Betty J Gilbert

street and number 6708 Deer Spring Lane telephone

city, town Middletown state MD zip code 21769

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County courthouse liber 1007 folio 874

city, town Frederick tax map 418 tax parcel 1308A tax ID number unknown

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☒ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	0	

7. Description

Inventory No. FHD-1300

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/>	excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	good	<input type="checkbox"/>	ruins
<input type="checkbox"/>	fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Description Summary

The Union Manufacturing Company knitting mill, now vacant, is a series of brick structures constructed throughout the last half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. The building fronts East Patrick Street and lies on the bank of Carroll Creek. The various sections of brick construction represent the growth of the knitting mill over the years it was owned by the Union Manufacturing Company. The appearance of the structure has changed very little since the early 20th century. The building is one of the few industrial structures still intact in the historically industrial southeast section of Frederick City.

Description

The Union Manufacturing Company knitting mill is a rambling red brick structure that covers at its front on East Patrick Street, four city lots and along its rear an entire block. The building's eastern wall borders an alley that leads to a foot bridge over Carroll Creek. Historically this alley had been a thoroughfare between Patrick Street and the other industrial buildings in the area. Just across the creek is the former home of the Colt & Dixon Packing Company (FHD-1299). The south side of the building lies along the banks of Carroll Creek. Due to a flood control project constructed in the 1970s the creek is now channelled through the city via a concrete canal. The space between the canal and the building is a matter of approximately 10 yards. The west side of the building is bordered by another alley that also crosses Carroll Creek. This area of Frederick, along East Patrick Street continues to be a mixture of residential and industrial as it was when the knitting mill was operating.

Viewing the knitting mill building from E. Patrick Street, the façade clearly shows its three distinct phases of construction. On the eastern corner is the the initial struture on the former site of the Vulcan Iron Works. It is five bays wide with a door in the center flanked by a small, narrow arched window on either sided of the recessed entry. On either side of the door way are two larger arched windows. All of these windows have half-round arches that appear to have 180 degree curves. On the second story the window configuration echoes the first with three narrow arched windows in the center flanked by two larger arched windows. The center windows have the same exagerated arch as the first floor windows but the four windows on either side of them have a much more gradual curve. There are iron bars on the first floor windows, it is unclear when these were installed.

The second phase of construction evident on the front of the building is the western corner. This five bay, two-story section was built as a separate building in the early 1900s and was later attached by a third phase of construction. This building has tall narrow, two over two windows, set into arched openings. There is a door at the center of the façade and the window above the door on the second story is wider than the other windows. The brickwork on this section of the building is more elaborate than the earlier structure. There are brick pilasters

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Name Union Manufacturing Company
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

running the height of the building between each window and decorative brick work just below the cornice. The roof on this structure appears flat.

The third part of the front of the building was added around the 1920s and echoes elements from the first part. This section fills in the narrow gap that had existed between the two buildings and is two bays wide. The first floor has a door at street level. The windows are in the same arched style of the first building. This section is three stories tall.

The east side of the building is a total of twenty-nine bays long. The north part of the building is two stories and consists of seventeen bays. The remainder of the building is three stories tall. There are three double-width doorways on this façade. One in the two-story part and two in the three-story part, all are on ground level. The foundation of this building is loose laid limestone. The windows of this side of the building are divided into pairs by brick pilasters running from ground level to roof. The three-story section also has decorative brick dentil molding at the cornice.

The rear or south side of the building is three stories and is five bays wide. The decorative brickwork here is the same as on the east side. The painted sign for the company is still legible and reads "Union" just below the eaves and "Knitting Mills." Between the second and third stories. The roof that is visible here is a shallow peaked roof, the roof on the front of the building appears to be flat.

The rear of the building provides a good view of other phases of building. The first addition is a low, one-story brick structure eight bays wide with windows that face the creek and a shed roof. Next is a one and a half story brick building four bays wide with a steeply pitched peaked roof. On the west side of this building is attached a one-story brick structure twelve bays wide with a shed roof. Attached to this section is a two story brick building with windows and an overhead door on the first floor only, its decorative brickwork echoes the rest of the buildings with pilasters and decorative cornice. It has a flat roof.

The west side of the building could not be viewed due to overgrown weeds and trees and a chain link fence. Through the chain link fence at the Patrick Street side of the property the additions form a sort of courtyard as they are much smaller than the two main parts of the building. Seen through the fence, there are several loading docks and overhead doors in this façade of the additions as well as a later concrete block addition to the west of the property.

8. Significance

Inventory No. FHD-1300

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	
Specific dates	1887 - 1950		Architect/Builder	unknown	
Construction dates	1888, c. 1900, c. 1910, c. 1920, c. 1925				

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary of Significance

The Union Manufacturing Company represents the type of small industrial concerns that grew up in Frederick County in the decades after the Civil War. Following the war Frederick city grew rapidly from internal emigration and from the arrival of new immigrants from Europe. The expansion of the railroad and a growing middle class helped create a demand for consumer goods which in turn created a conducive environment for the creation of new factories. Hand in hand with the creation of new factories was the increase of women in the workforce, particularly in the garment industry. The Union Manufacturing Company was the first in Frederick County to actively recruit women to be workers in their hosiery factory. (National Register Criteria A)

Historical Context

[See "Historic Industry in Mid-Maryland" prepared for the Maryland Historical Trust through the Catocin Center for Regional Studies, 2002-2003.]

The Frederick Seamless Hosiery was founded in 1887 by five Frederick businessmen, David Lowenstein, Thomas H. Haller, John Baumgardner, George H. Zimmerman, and M.E. Getzendanner with \$5,000 in capital. It was first established in the four-story Etchison building at 34-36 East Patrick Street and the primary product was men's half hose. Soon the business outgrew the building and in 1888 the partners bought the site of the former Vulcan Iron Works at 340 East Patrick Street and began building a new factory. In 1889, the Frederick Seamless Hosiery was reorganized and renamed The Union Manufacturing Company and took up residence in the newly constructed building. Instead of making just stockings, half of the new facility was dedicated to making men's shirts – the three-story section was dedicated to knitting and the two-story portion was used for shirts. Only six months after expanding into

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Name Union Manufacturing Company
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

manufacturing shirts, that portion of the company's line was discontinued and the knitting works were expanded taking up the entire building.¹

By the 1920s the knitting mill was paying some of the highest wages in Frederick County. Landing a job at "the hosiery" was considered a boon, and even after having children some women chose to continue to work because the pay was more than what some of their husbands made. As the Great Depression set in the knitting mill found itself in good stead having purchased new rayon knitting machines. By 1935, rayon stockings with the seam running up the back of the leg were becoming the fashion so the factory continued to prosper and the building expanded to keep pace. Then, in 1937, Dupont Industries successfully developed nylon thread. The Union Manufacturing Company had been a good customer of Dupont's in the past and was offered a chance to experiment with the new fiber that same year. After several days of trial and error, in the Spring of 1937, the Union Manufacturing Company produced the first nylon stocking in the world. The new stocking was a hit and soon the knitting mill was turning out over 1 million pairs of women's stockings annually. Hose from the Union knitting mill was being sold all over the world under the brand names of Wonder Hose and Ever Wear.²

Unfortunately, the success did not last. Following World War II fashions changed again and the seamless variety of stocking was back in style. The company was caught unprepared, they did not have the machinery to produce the new kind of hose. Business dropped off and workers were let go and hours cut back. In 1959 the Union Manufacturing Company and another local business, the Everedy Company merged to form the Union-Everedy Co. After the merger Union stopped making hosiery, the knitting machines were sold and in 1962, Meadows Van and Storage purchased the building.³

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. FHD-1300

Ford, Joseph, Lynne Wells, and Melissa Conroy. The Union Manufacturing Company: The History of the Union Manufacturing Company from 1887 to 1957. Fredericktowne Printing and Graphics: Frederick, Maryland, 1997.

Williams, T.J.C. History of Frederick County, Maryland. Baltimore: Maryland:Regional Publishing Co., 1979, reprint of the original 1910 edition.

Sandborn Fire Insurance Company Maps, microfilm collection Maryland Room, C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property Approx 1 acre

Acreage of historical setting Approx 1 acre

Quadrangle name Frederick, MD Quad

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is defined by Frederick County tax map 418, parcel 1308A

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Heidi Campbell-Shoaf, Historian

organization Paula Reed & Assoc., Inc.

date August 2003

street & number 105 N. Potomac St.

telephone 301.739.2070

city or town Hagerstown

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. FHD-1300

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Continuation Sheet

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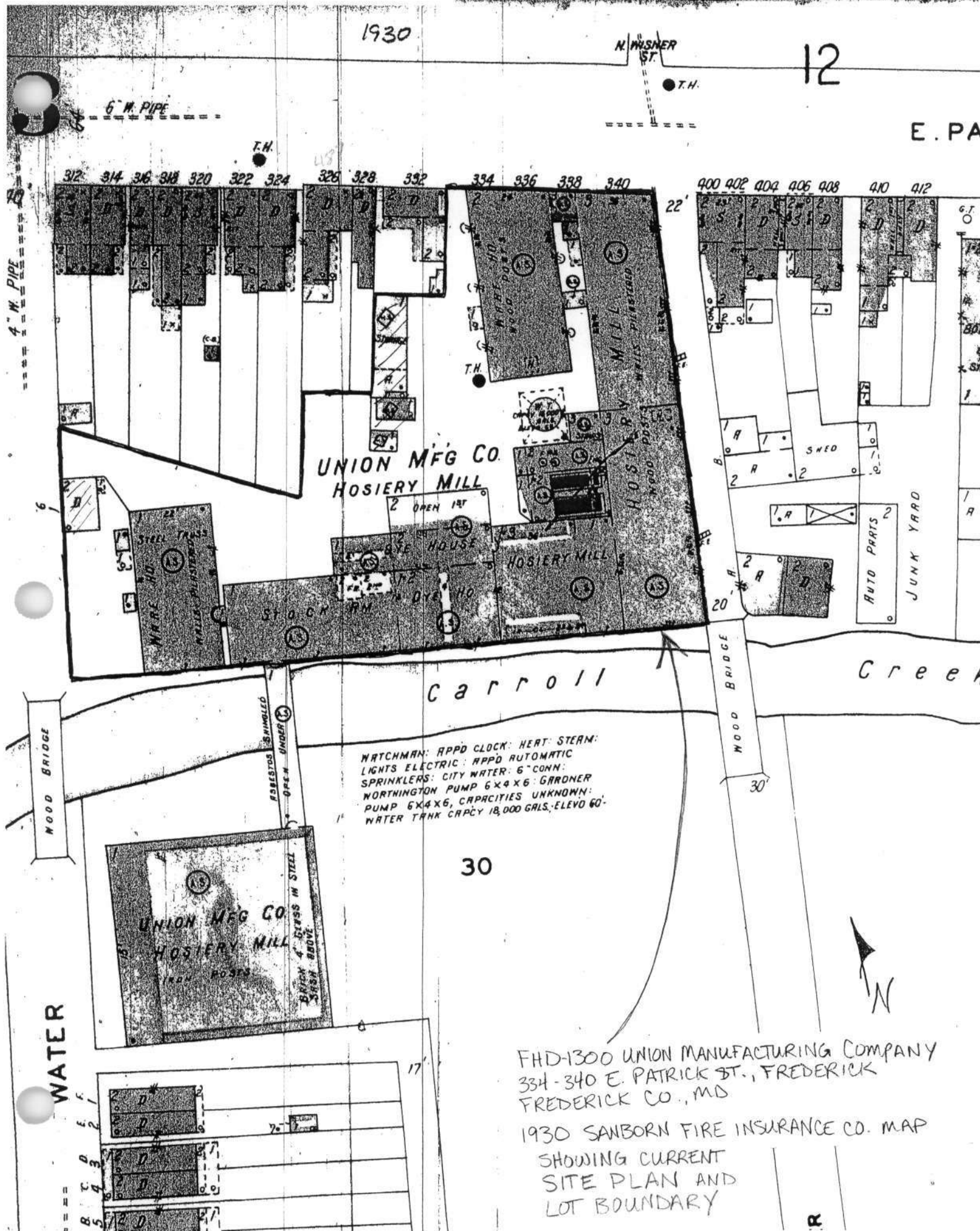
¹ Williams, T.J.C. History of Frederick County, Maryland. (Baltimore, MD: Regional Publishing Co., 1979, reprint of the original 1910 edition), p. 619-620.

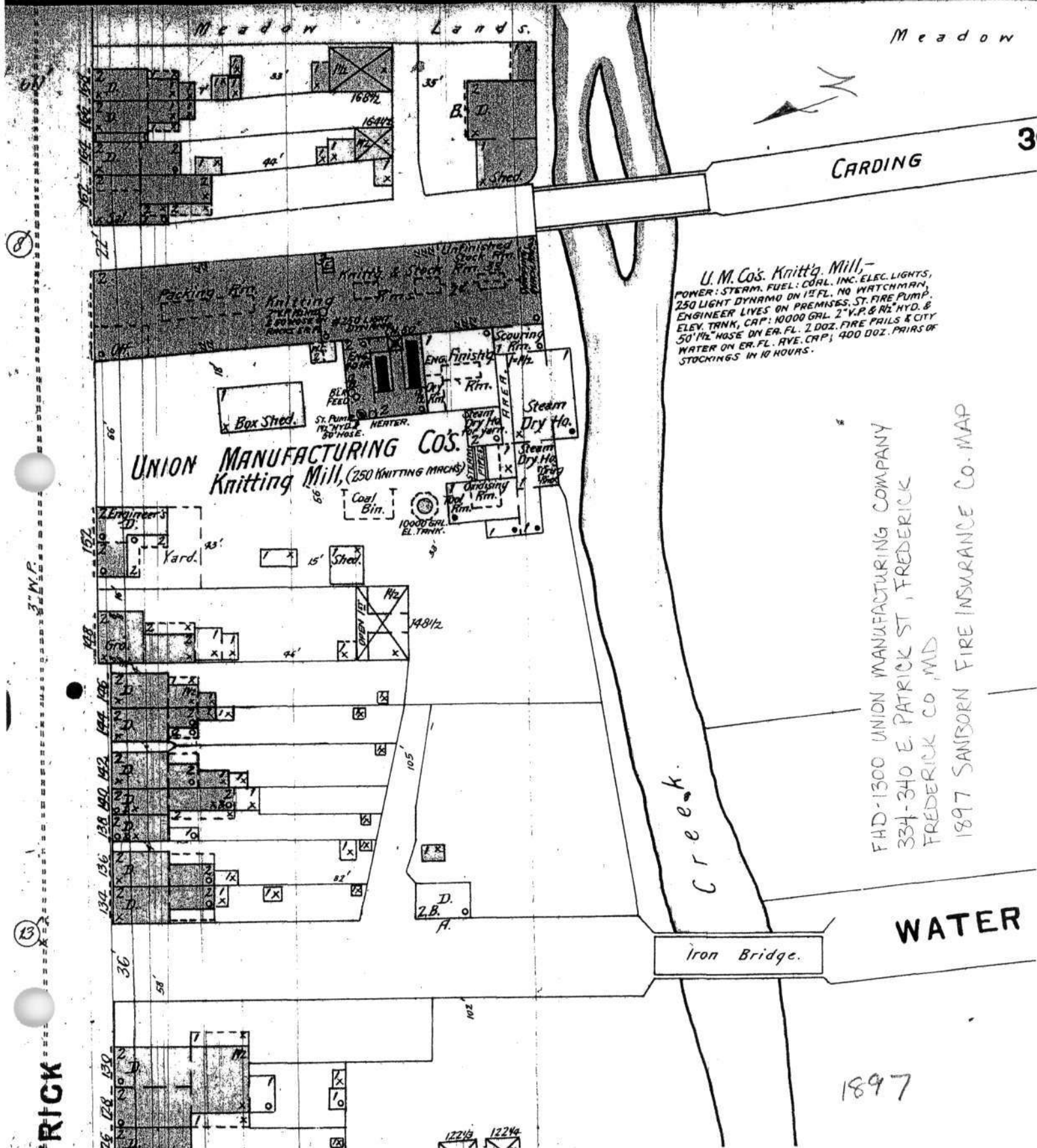
² Ford, Joseph, Lynne Wells, and Melissa Conroy, The Union Manufacturing Company: The History of the Union Manufacturing Company from 1887 to 1957. (Fredericktowne Printing and Graphics: Frederick, Maryland, 1997), p50-53, 56-57.

³ Ibid., 58-62.

12

E. PA



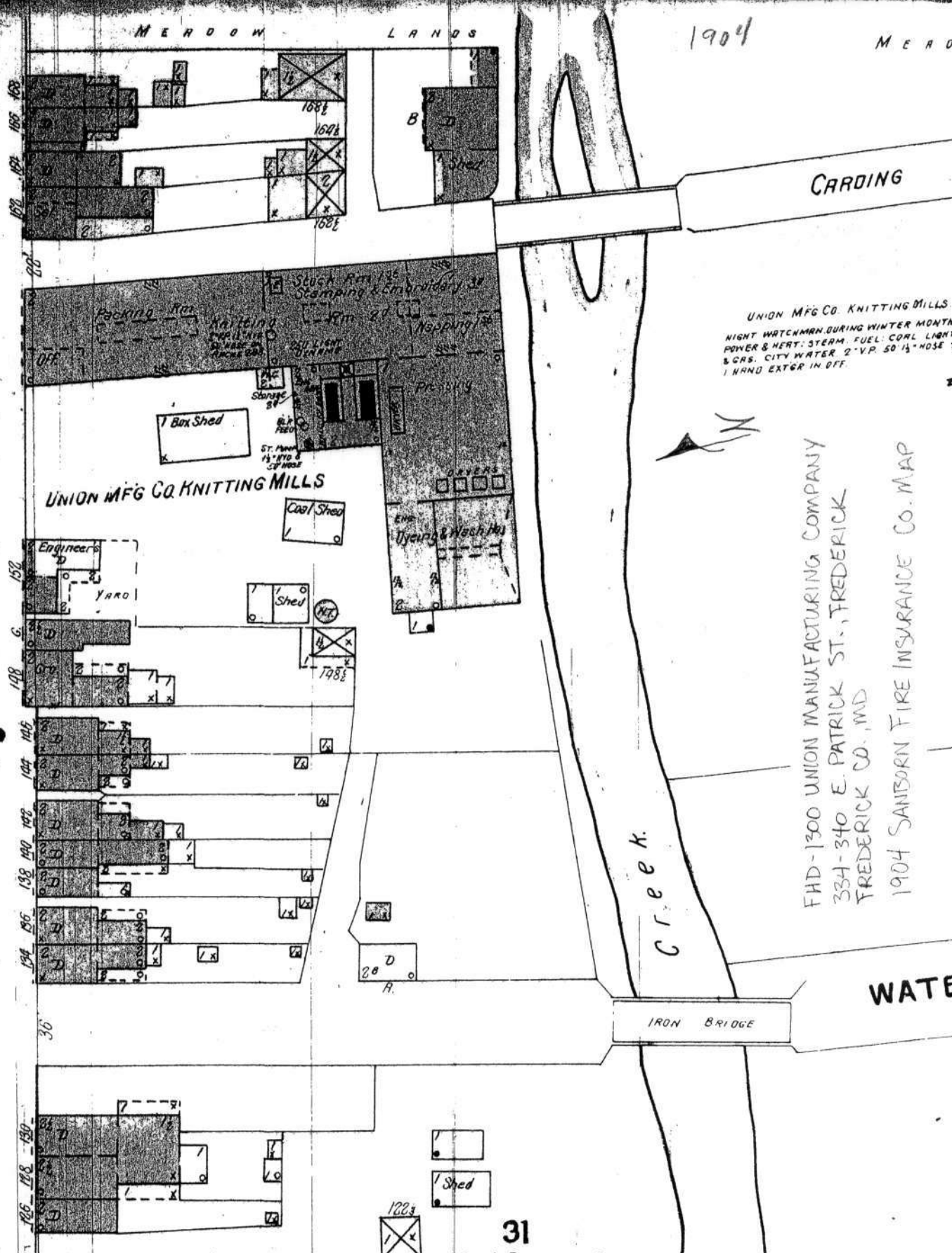


ATRICK

19

8" W. PIPE

6" W. PIPE



1904

CARDING

UNION MFG CO. KNITTING MILLS.
NIGHT WATCHMAN DURING WINTER MONTH
POWER & HEAT: STEAM. FUEL: COAL. LIGHT
& GAS. CITY WATER. 2" V.P. 50' 1/2" HOSE 1
1 HAND EXTER IN OFF.



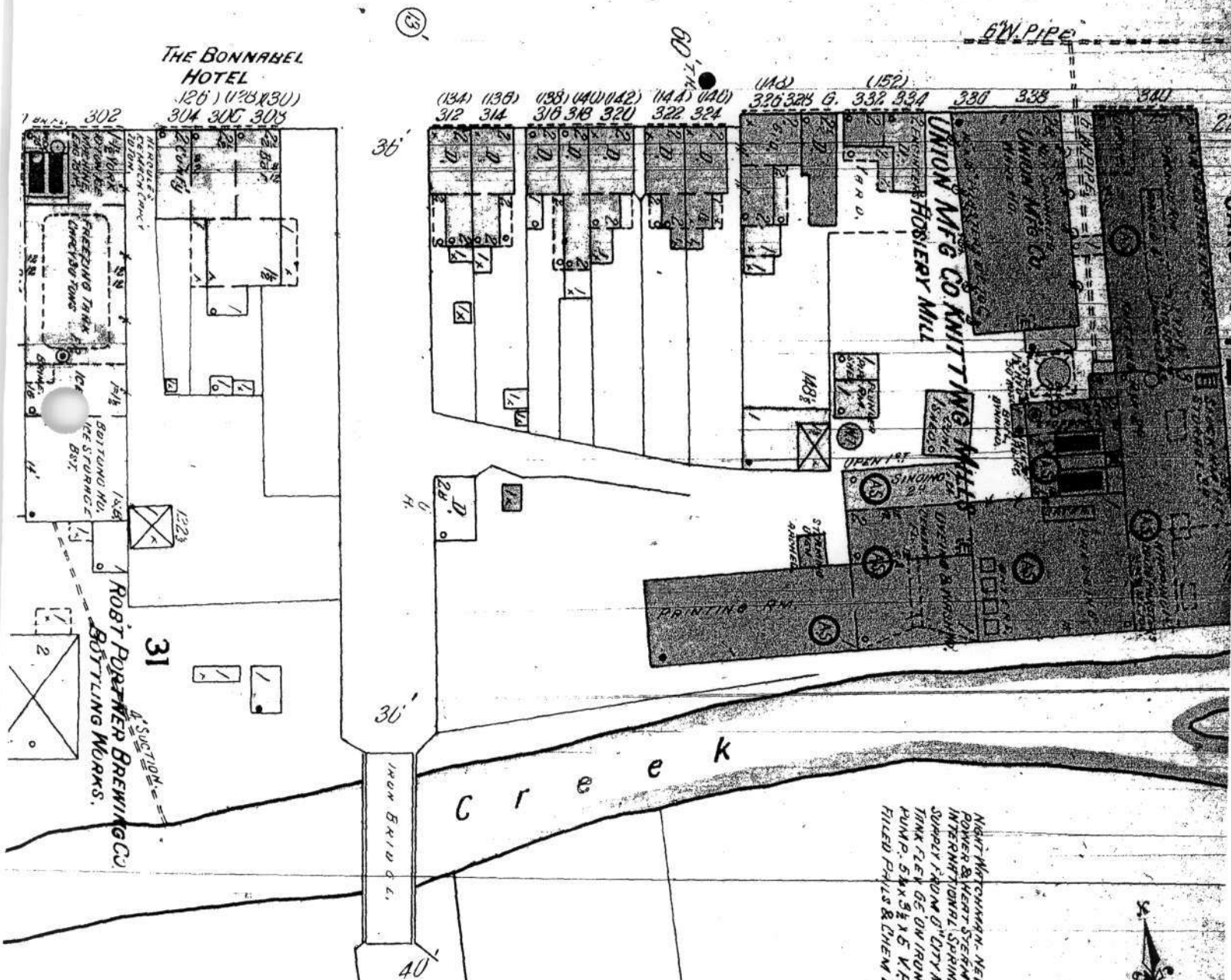
FHD-1300 UNION MANUFACTURING COMPANY
334-340 E. PATRICK ST., FREDERICK
FREDERICK CO., MD
1904 SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE CO. MAP

Creek.

IRON BRIDGE

WATER

31



FHD-1300 UNION MANUFACTURING COMPANY
 334-340 E. PATRICK ST. FREDERICK
 FREDERICK CO, MD
 1911 SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE CO. MAP

NATE

NIGHT WATCHMAN - NEWMAN LOCK STATION. HO
 POWER & HEAT STEAM - LIGHTS ELEC - L. P. FUEL
 INTERNATIONAL SPRINKLERS IN W. L. - WET 3107
 SUBPLY FROM 6" CITY MAIN - 6" LBS PRESSURE & A
 TANK FLEW 65 ON IRON TOWER - TANK FED BY W.
 PUMP - 5" X 3 1/2" V.P.R.S. SHOWN WITH 50' H.
 FILED PAULS & CHEM ETIORS DISTRIBUTED - 1

12

6" N. PIPE

T. A.

H. & F. Riv.

6" W. PIPE

E. PATRICK

312 314 316 318 320 322 324 328 330 332 336 338 340 400 402 404 406 408 410 412

UNION MFG. CO.

Carroll Creek

UNION M'F'G. CO.
HOSIERY MILL

LIGHT & POWER: ELCT. HEAT: STEAM
NIGHT WATCHMAN, NIGHTMAN CLOCK
3 STATIONS, HOURLY KOUNUS-INTERNATIONHL
SPRINKLERS- WET SYSEM- PRIMARY SUPPLY
FROM 6" CITY MAIN- 25 LBS. PRESSURE.
SECONDARY SUPPLY FROM 1- 20,000 GAL. WATER
TANK- ELEV. 50'- 2- 6'- 1- 4'- & 2- 3'
RISEHS. HEASUS SPCHD 8' X 8'

WISNER

FHD-1300 UNION MANUFACTURING COMPANY
334-340 E. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK
FREDERICK CO., MD

1922 SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE CO. MAP

WATER

30

1930

N. WISNER ST.

12

E. PA

6" W. PIPE

T.H.

4" W. PIPE

UNION MFG CO.
HOSIERY MILL

2 OPEN 1ST

STEEL TRUSS

STOCK RM

DYE HOUSE

HOSIERY MILL

SHED

AUTO PARTS

JUNK YARD

Carroll

Creek

WATCHMAN: APPD CLOCK: HEAT: STEAM:
LIGHTS ELECTRIC: APPD AUTOMATIC
SPRINKLERS: CITY WATER: 6" CONN:
NORTHINGTON PUMP 6x4x6: GARDNER
PUMP 6x4x6, CAPACITIES UNKNOWN:
WATER TANK CAPCY 18,000 GALS: ELEV 60'

30

UNION MFG CO.
HOSIERY MILL

IRON POSTS

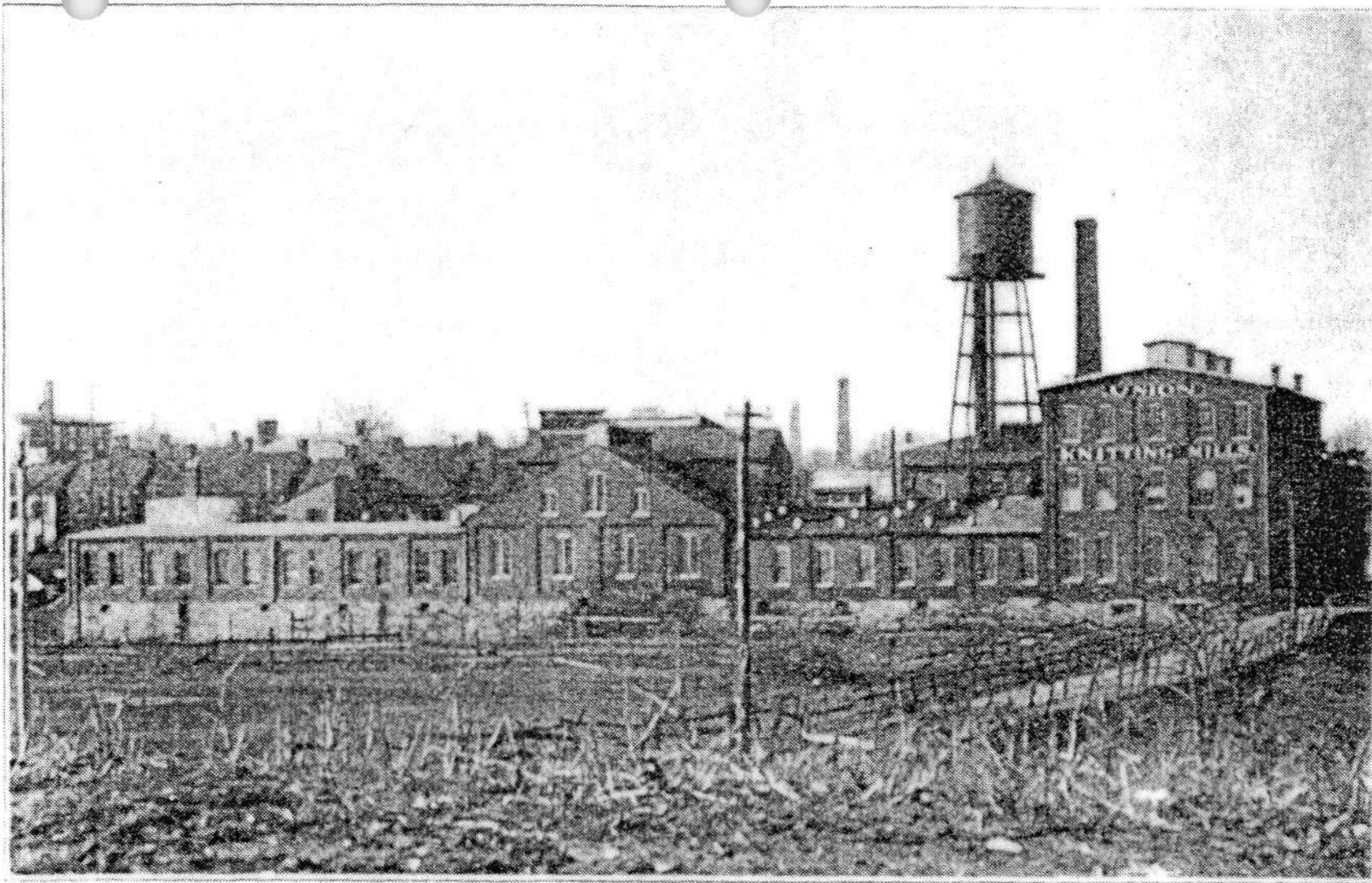
BRICK 4" GLASS IN STEEL
SASH ABOVE

WATER

FHD-1300 UNION MANUFACTURING COMPANY
334-340 E. PATRICK ST., FREDERICK
FREDERICK CO., MD

1930 SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE CO. MAP

ER

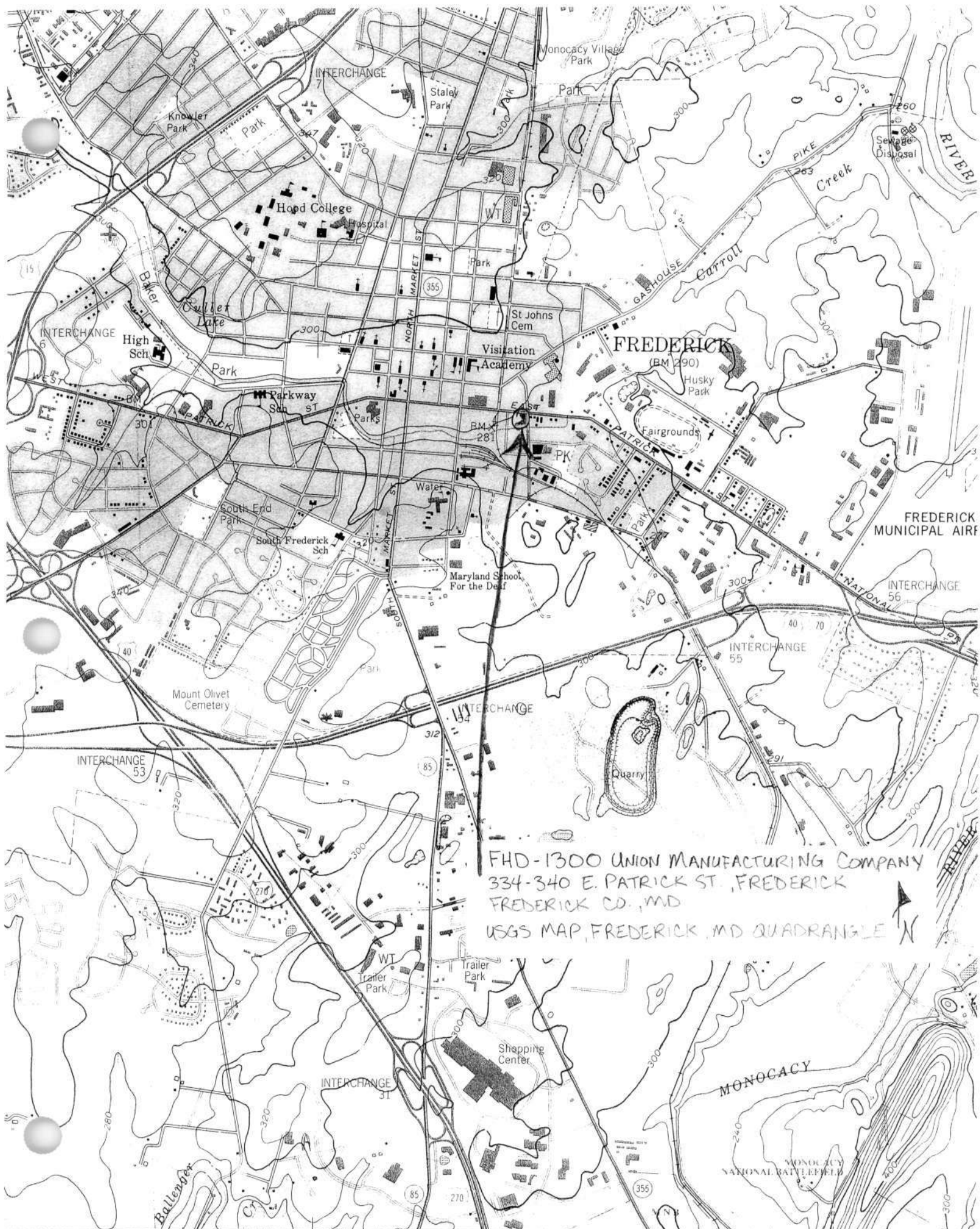


Union Knitting Mills, Frederick.

FHD-1300
UNION MANUFACTURING CO.
334-340 E. PATRICK ST.
FREDERICK, FREDERICK CO., MD

FROM T.J.C. WILLIAMS, HISTORY OF FREDERICK CO., 1910

p. 624



FHD-1300 UNION MANUFACTURING COMPANY
334-340 E. PATRICK ST., FREDERICK
FREDERICK CO., MD
USGS MAP, FREDERICK, MD QUADRANGLE



FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co.
334-340 E. Patrick St.
Frederick, MD

Frederick County
H. Campbell-Shoaf
8/03

MDSHPO

S elevation viewed from S side of Carroll Creek
view NW

1/8



FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co.

334-340 E. Patrick St.

Frederick, MD

Frederick County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSTPO

S elevation of additions to W side of Main
bldg, Carroll Creek in foreground

2/8



FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co
334-340 E. Patrick St.
Frederick, MD

Frederick County
H. Campbell - Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

E elevation, S end of building

3/8



FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co

334-340 E. Patrick St.

Frederick, MD

Frederick County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSTPO

E elevation, N end, view NE

4/8

03

000000

000000

000000

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FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co.

334-340 E. Patrick St.

Frederick, MD

Frederick County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

N elevation, E end of building

5/8



FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co.

334-340 E. Patrick St.

Frederick, MD

Frederick County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPD

N elevation, W end from N side of E. Patrick St.

6/8



FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co.

334-340 E. Patrick St.

Frederick, MD

Frederick County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

N elevation of additions, view SW

7/8

LEASE
COMMERCIAL
SHEPHERDSON
COMMERCIAL
301-471-9950

338
1900

FHD-1300

Union Manufacturing Co.

334-340 E. Patrick St., Frederick, MD

Frederick County

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

W elevation of main building

8/8